

Obama: Five-year freeze
on NASA budget pg 2



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57th carnaval

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Tuesday, February 15, 2011

The first Flip-Flop Carnival Festival is a hit!



Balashi Crew and SAC officials show off their CHILL



Dancing on a manmade beach on Irausquin Blvd

Over the years, various experiments in gaiety have been tried during Aruba's carnival season, just for fun, and have proven so successful they become a permanent part of the official calendar, the Hebbe-Hebbe Happening scheduled for February 23, is an excellent example.

Sunday night's Flip-Flop Carnival Festival has likely proven to be one such hugely successful event. A portion of Irausquin Boulevard fronting The Village mall in Palm Beach was filled with sand and a huge stage erected where two of Aruba's most popular bands, Tsunami and Dushi Band performed. Balashi Chill beer booths from the official sponsors of the event did a brisk business offering their new brew at a very special low price. To quote Mark Benson of 24ora.com, who acted as MC for the evening, "we have a wonderful mix of tourists and locals here tonight, mixing and mingling; this turned out to be a terrific idea that allows island visitors to truly share the fun and spirit of Carnival and everybody is having a great time."

We expect to see it on the schedule for next year!

by Rosalie Klein

Aruba's Currency Exhibition is open



This week Aruba will place on public exhibit her currency in conjunction with the 25th anniversary celebrations of our 25th year of Status Aparte (Apart Status within the Dutch Kingdom). Twenty five years ago when Aruba became a separate nation within the Dutch Kingdom, this marked also the start of our own Central Bank. For this reason Aruba takes pride in placing on public display the development of the emission of her own Florin.

The exposition is open to everyone as of February 18th from 10 o'clock in the morning to 6:00 o'clock in the afternoon.

As we reminisce on the past, two names in particular come to mind in relation to the birth of our Central Bank. One

of the names is that of renowned artist, Evelino Fингal, and the other is that of Don Mansur, the first minister of Economic Affairs for Aruba. Evelino Fингal designed our Florin and our paper bills, while Don Mansur served as President of the Central Bank of Aruba for one day, to later pass the baton of this giant responsibility to Mr. Hassani Mehran.

This and much more will be on exhibit commemorating the silver anniversary of Aruba's Status Aparte within the Dutch Kingdom and the Central Bank. The exhibition will be housed in the historic 1846 Protestant Church annex building in the Wilhelminastraat.

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TUESDAY AND FRIDAY: LIVE MUSIC

Obama: Five-year freeze on NASA budget

WASHINGTON (AFP) - President Barack Obama yesterday proposed reining in expenses at NASA, sending his 2012 budget blueprint to Congress calling for a five-year freeze on new spending at the US space agency.

The president would restrict NASA's budget to last year's levels, \$18.7 billion annually through fiscal 2016. The figure represents a 1.6-percent decrease from the spending total the agency had sought for fiscal 2011, which ends in September.

"This budget reflects the overall fiscal reality of the US government. There is not a lot of money available," said John Logsdon, a former director of the Space Policy Institute in Washington.

"It should not compromise what NASA wants to do but it certainly would slow it down," said Logsdon, an independent

consultant to the Obama administration. "They intend to do everything, just it will be a slightly slower schedule."

A final US budget for fiscal 2011 has not been approved because Democrats and Republicans failed to agree on spending levels in the runup to last November's mid-term election. At that time, Obama and fellow Democrats decided to maintain 2010 levels.

But Republicans won control of the House of Representatives and they are vowing massive spending cuts for the remainder of fiscal 2011 and beyond.

One administration official, close to the National Aeronautics and Space Administration and speaking anonymously, said: "We don't know what NASA will get in 2011."

Nearly half of Obama's proposed 2012 NASA budget -- and for the next five years -- is dedicated to space operations and exploration systems including \$2.9 billion for the development of a heavy launcher and a space capsule intended for missions beyond low Earth orbit.

The heavy launcher will be crucial for sending astronauts to an asteroid of Mars, but also to the International Space Station, as the agency's space shuttle program winds down this year.

Seven billion dollars have been earmarked for work aimed at making the new heavy launcher operational by 2016.

But NASA has not yet determined the architecture of the system nor when it will be operational. The goal of 2016, in any case, is unlikely.

A major theme of this budget is to maintain access for American astronauts at the International Space Station whose use has been extended to 2020.

Military urges halt to strikes gripping Egypt

CAIRO, Egypt (AFP) - Egypt's military government yesterday urged a halt to widespread strikes inspired by a popular uprising that threatened to paralyse the country following Hosni Mubarak's overthrow.

The orders came after the elderly generals now ruling the country met some of the young Internet activists who triggered the revolt against Mubarak, reportedly promising a referendum on a new constitution within two months.

European governments, meanwhile, moved on Egyptian requests to freeze the assets of several officials of the ousted regime amid accusations that they had salted away billions of dollars in ill-gotten assets.

In its latest announcement since it took power on Friday, the Supreme Council of the Armed Forces urged trade union leaders to call off their

action but stopped short of issuing a decree banning strikes, as it had been rumoured to be preparing to do.

"Honourable citizens can see that protests at this critical time will have a negative effect in harming the security of the country," its spokesman said.

The nationwide uprising that toppled Mubarak's 30-year rule has splintered into scattered pay strikes by workers in the banking, transport, health care, oil, tourism and textiles sectors, as well as state-owned media and government bodies.

"It's difficult to say exactly how many people are striking and where. Who isn't striking?" Kamal Abbas of the Centre for Trade Union and Workers' Services said.

Many of the strikes were aimed at removing corrupt

union leaders tied to Mubarak, he said.

At one such protest, public transport workers demanded better working conditions and accused officials of corruption.

At another protest, hospital workers formed a human chain to stop traffic on the highway south out of the capital, causing a major traffic jam and infuriating motorists who shouted: "Shame on you!"

The strikes prompted the stock exchange to again delay reopening until next week, citing "fears of instability."

In the shadow of the Great Pyramids of Giza a different kind of protest was held, with hundreds of guides urging tourists to return, holding banners in English, French, Russian and German that: "Egypt loves you."

Iceland petition against Icesave deal tops 12,000 signatures

REYKJAVIK, Iceland (AFP) - A petition urging Iceland's parliament to vote against a new deal reached with Britain and the Netherlands to repay money lost in the collapse of the Icesave bank had garnered over 12,000 signatures yesterday, organisers said.

The online petition also asks Icelandic President Olafur Grimsson to use his veto to block the bill in the event that parliament adopts it.

"The organisation was established to fight for a national vote when it comes to dealing with Iceland's responsibility for the Icesave accounts," Sigrbjorn Svavarsson, a pensioner and member of the Samstada (unity in Icelandic) group, told a news conference.

"Most of us who make up Samstada are opposed to there being an Icesave agreement, but all of us argue the nation

should have the final word," he added.

The non-political group, made up of 14 people, launched the www.kjosum.is website last Friday, and by 1430 GMT yesterday, some 12,350 of Iceland's nearly 320,000 people had signed the online petition.

The Icelandic parliament is set to vote for the third and final time this week on a new deal reached with British and Dutch negotiators in December.

Even if Icelandic parliamentarians approve the deal, it still needs the green light from President Olafur Grimsson, who early last year vetoed its hugely unpopular predecessor and put it to a referendum.

Some 93.2 percent of the Icelanders who took part in the popular vote last March rejected the initial deal.

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Panama begins subway construction

PANAMA CITY, Panama (AFP) - Construction on the first metro in Central America began in Panama City yesterday, a 1.6 billion dollar project that will open to riders in 2014.

The subway -- the ninth in Latin America but the first in Central America -- is being built by an international consortium that includes France's Alstom, Brazil's Norberto Odebrecht and Spain's Fomento de Construcciones y Contratas.

Alstom will design and build the trains and electro-mechanical systems for the metro.

Promoting Sustainable Economic Development for Aruba



Public and private sector stakeholders met with Minister of Economic Affairs, Michelle Winklaar-Hooyboer, in the start of a series of strategic meetings to outline and deliberate what she envisions for the development of a sustainable economy for Aruba. In this first meeting Winklaar-Hooyboer presented her vision and plans on how the two sectors can work together to construct a competitive economy. The Minister's philosophy centers around efficiency and collaboration to increase productivity and prosperity for everyone involved.

The important partners participating in these meetings are: The Department of Economic Affairs, Central Bureau of Statistics, Central Bank, ATIA, Chamber of Commerce, San Nicolaas Business Association and other individuals of the public and private sectors.

The Minister reviewed Aruba's current economic situation and the challenges facing us today, along with the need for innovation and an innovative management approach.

She also outlined her new economic management strategy designed to create national innovation, promotion for attracting investment, business growth and satisfied consumers.

Additionally, her strategy includes new programs, economic activities to generate economic sustainability for

Aruba. The Minister of Economic Affairs concluded her remarks by indicating the importance of the strategic meetings, which she claims are fundamental for the development of a solid and sustainable economic development. This, she feels will attract economic innovation for the island from which all can benefit.

Organizers of Aruba in Style 2011 attend Mercedes-Benz Fashion Week in New York



The famous Mercedes-Benz Fashion Week 2011 kicked-off at the Lincoln Center with a star-studded catwalk presenting the Fall/Winter collection. Fashion professionals, celebrities, journalists and fashionistas were front row for this grand event. More than 100 in-

ternational designers were present, among them fashion bywords such as Vera Wang, Betsey Johnson and Ralph Lauren. This year's theme was leather, suede and lace.

On the first day of the event, famous designer Mara Hoffman and her invited

guests, organizers of the Aruba in Style 2011 Event, presented her Fall/Winter 2011 Ready-to-Wear collection; breezy and wearable designs in bright colors and dramatic styles combined with shoe creations of respected designer Steve Madden.

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Producer of the New York Mercedes-Benz Fashion Week, IMG Worldwide Fashion, will soon arrive on Aruba to assist in the organizing of Aruba in Style 2011, which is scheduled for November 3-6.

Aruba in Style will be the premiere fashion show of Latin America and the Caribbean. It is produced in association with IMG, which conducts more than 20 renowned global events in New York, Miami, Tokyo, Milan and Berlin. The week will feature international designers showing their latest collections and is expected to attract many visitors, including celebrities, international press, top models, style setters and fashionistas.

Photo shows the Aruba Fashion Group together with Mara Hoffman, and her PR Company during the Mercedes Benz Fashion Week in Miami.

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Kromoar is on the look-out for friends and family members



We would like to introduce Kromoar (Crooked Ear) to you, one of the donkeys living at the Aruban Donkey Sanctuary. He is one of the first donkeys who came to live at the Sanctuary: he arrived in 1977! The story goes that Kromoar had to fight other stallions for a beautiful female donkey and that his injury is a reminder of that. Nobody knows whether he won the love of the lady and Kromoar isn't telling. He can always be seen on his own, enjoying life. When it is feeding time he is always in the front and his colleagues had better watch out, as his kicks can be vicious. Being first in line is his hobby and the volunteers know by now that they should not bother him when he is at the dining table. Kromoar is a character indeed! And recognizing this donkey does not pose any problem at all: just look at his crooked ears and you know it's him!

Kromoar has a chip, just like the other donkeys. This way he can be recognized and all his medical information is

on it. The donkeys at the sanctuary are well-cared for: they get their food and drink and when they are sick the vet is called. Yes, they are expensive customers. The volunteers try to cover the cost through organizing all kinds of activities and by selling nice souvenirs in the store. Fortunately there are visitors who adopt a donkey now and then, who donate money or who buy something in the store. They help keep the sanctuary afloat that way.

The volunteers are now looking for people who wish to adopt Kromoar. He will stay at the sanctuary, of course; the only thing that is needed is that AWG. 30,- per month is paid for his keep. In this way you help support this wonderful donkey as well as the sanctuary. You will receive a nice document and a super T-shirt. And if you like, your name and photo will be posted on our website. The sanctuary is open on weekdays from 9 – 4 pm and in the weekends from 10 – 3 pm; visitors are very welcome. The sanctuary is also a great place to drink cup of coffee or a juice or eat an ice cream.

Please call the Donkey Sanctuary at 595-2933 and become Kromoar's new family member; you can also register as an adoptive parent via our website www.arubadonkey.org or deposit a donation on our Aruba Bank account 40.03.025. Please help!

Cas Animal cont'd

When visiting the abandoned Gold Works in Frenchman's Pass, keep an eye out for abandoned puppies!



Today we feature two of the permanent residents of Cas Animal, the refuge provided by Kiki Arndt, whose mission in life is rescuing the stray and abused dogs and cats of Aruba. Kiki began adopting abandoned dogs 14 years ago, when she came to live on the island, never imagining she would finally provide a home for 71 dogs and 11 puppies at her house, and 38 cats at that of a friend.

This number keeps growing; she always harbors the hope a kind person will adopt

called Kiki to rescue the dog. Francesca was one of 3 puppies that had been deposited in the same hole; firemen provided the ladders to allow Kiki to climb down and retrieve the animals.

All the dogs became regular residents in Kiki's home; Francesca, who is around nine years old, dedicates her days and nights aggressively protecting the young ones in the puppy pen from being molested; perhaps a memory of the trauma she experienced herself?

Among the many dogs and puppies Kiki has been retrieving off the streets and nursing back to health, while psychologically rehabilitating them to their naturally affectionate and devoted dispositions are many who are perfect for adoption. Her charges are living proof that a little kindness goes a long way. To meet and befriend one of the several puppies and young dogs she offers for adoption, most of them neutered, call 565-2130 or 742-8732. It is not unusual for vacationers to return to their homes with one of our very appealing "cunucu dogs." Just such a story is featured in the February 2011 edition of "Dog Fancy" magazine. Transporting them to the U.S. or Europe is simple and Kiki will walk you through the process. Donations are also appreciated as it costs an astronomical amount of money to feed all the animals and Kiki maintains her Animal Ambulance to transport sick or injured dogs to the vet's office as a free service when their owners are unable to do so. Contributions can be made through CMB Bank account # 25762110 under the name of Cas Animal.

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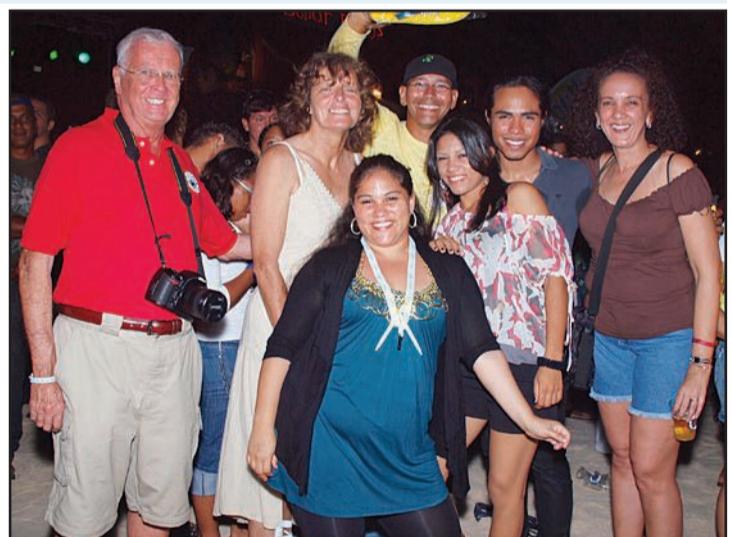
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The first Flip-Flop Carnival Festival is a hit!



Mark Benson and DJ keep the action going

Sci-Tech

Israel gears up to go electric



TEL AVIV (AFP) — These heralds of a new age are remarkably quiet. No drums, no trumpets, just the whirr of a robot changing batteries and an electric car silently gliding around the Better Place test track.

These are the final touches as Israeli-American entrepreneur Shai Agassi prepares to deploy a fleet of electric cars later this year, hoping to break Israel's dependence on oil by the end of the decade.

But as Agassi's venture gathers momentum, with similar projects getting under way in Australia, Canada, Denmark and Hawaii, there are a few issues casting a shadow over his vision of making the world a better place.

Rivals and experts have expressed doubts over the technical aspects, particularly the ability of Israel's electric grid to handle a sudden increase in demand from electric cars.

Of greater concern is that French automaker Renault, Agassi's main partner and vehicle supplier, is embroiled in a messy industrial espionage scandal surrounding its flag-

ship electric car programme.

Still, Agassi -- a hi-tech multi-millionaire and former number-two at German software group SAP -- remains optimistic, both about the success of his project and the inevitability of its global impact.

"We did not decide to change the world, we decided to do something that will make the world a better place," Agassi told AFP at the Better Place visitor's centre near Tel Aviv.

His idea is simple: to get an entire country to give up its dependence on oil.

"The only approach that gets us off dependence on oil in a way that is scalable, to run the country and the world, will be an electric car," he said.

To do this, he needed to overcome a problem that has kept electric cars a rare sight for over a century -- short battery life and long recharging times which has made them impractical for most drivers.

-- Startling silence -- Agassi's solution was to combine a vast country-wide network of convenient recharge

points, with the ability to switch to a full battery in less time than it takes to fill up a regular car with petrol (gasoline).

"We have to get a car to be more convenient and more affordable for the market to adopt it," said Agassi.

At the centre they demonstrate the battery switch technology. The car rolls onto two rails, like a car wash, and a robot slides underneath where it removes the depleted 200 kilogramme (320 pound) battery and replaces it with a charged one in less than a minute.

The precision technology is taken from Israel's air force, which uses the same mechanism to load and release bombs from F-16 fighter jets, explains the guide.

At the nearby test track, visitors are trying out the cars.

The vehicles respond immediately to pressure on the accelerator and the ride is smoother as electric engines don't have gears.

But the most startling aspect is the silence. Inside the car, the only sound is the hum of the air conditioner; outside, it is just the sound of tyres on tarmac.

"The driving is very pleasant and calm ... it's simply an experience," said Haim Lotem, a local resident who has come to see what all the fuss is about.

Agassi says the first of the 100,000 Renault Fluence ZE (Zero Emission) family sedans will hit the road before the end of the year.

Sony Ericsson unveils first PlayStation smartphone



BARCELONA (AFP) — Sony Ericsson has unveiled the first smartphone certified for PlayStation with a slide-out control pad delivering 3D-capable mobile gaming.

The latest edition of Sony Ericsson's Android software-based Xperia smartphones, the Xperia

Play, has the expected equipment including 5-megapixel camera and four-inch (10.2-centimetre) multi-touch screen.

The big difference is a slide-out gaming pad with a digital pad, analogue touch pads, shoulder buttons and the familiar PlayStation icons -- a circle, cross,

square and triangle.

"I am delighted to see Xperia Play as the first PlayStation certified device," said Kazuuo Hirai, president of Sony Corp.'s networked products and services group.

The phone is powered by the latest Android platform, Gingerbread, the group said after it was shown off for the first time Sunday at the mobile phone industry's annual congress here in Barcelona.

Sony Ericsson said it had got together with major gaming publishers to deliver titles via the Android Marketplace, including Need for Speed, Sims 3 and the first multi-player version of the FIFA game for mobile.


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News on first Nokia Windows Phone within days

BARCELONA, Spain (AFP)

— The target release date of the first Nokia smartphone to use Microsoft's Windows Phone operating system could be set within days, with the company aiming to have it on the market this year, senior executives said Sunday.

Speaking on the eve of the mobile phone industry's annual get-together in Barcelona, Nokia chief Stephen Elop defended the tie-up with the US software giant, saying it would bring billions in value to the Finnish company, which has seen its market share squeezed by Apple's iPhone and phones using Google's Android operating system.

Nokia and Microsoft technical teams "are working together next week to solidify the timing of the first Nokia Windows Phone product," said Jo Harlow, Nokia's executive vice president in charge of smart devices.

Speaking two days after the announcement of the smartphone tie-up between the two IT giants, Harlow told journalists she could not yet name a date for handset's release.

"But my boss has told me he would be much happier if

that time was in 2011," she said alongside Elop.

The world's top mobile phone maker unveiled on Friday week a radical new strategy by partnering with Microsoft, under which Nokia smartphones will be adopting Microsoft's phone platform and its own Symbian operating system will be eventually phased out.

Nokia has been unable to respond to the rise of Apple's iPhone and Google's Android operating system on its own.

Technology research firm Gartner said Wednesday Nokia's global market share had tumbled to 28.9 percent in 2010 from 36.4 percent in 2009, having once topped 40 percent.

Elop said that by passing up Google for Microsoft "we create an environment where now Windows Phone is a challenger. We have created ... a three horse race" in the smartphone operating system marketplace.

He said Nokia would provide a "swing factor" to encourage developers to create applications for Windows Phone and they would seek to manage the transition to bring its massive base of satisfied Symbian customers to the new devices.

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Health & Living**Countries must do more to fight alcohol abuse: WHO**

GENEVA, Switzerland (AFP) – The World Health Organisation warned that too few countries were taking steps to prevent alcohol abuse and raised alarm bells over major increases in alcohol consumption in Africa and Asia.

"Too few countries use effective policy options to prevent death, disease and injury from alcohol use," the UN health organisation said, saying that alcohol abuse contributes to 2.5 million deaths every year.

Since 1999, when the agency first began to sound its warning against alcohol abuse, 34 countries have introduced some policies to cut the harmful use of alcohol.

Data indicated that consumption of alcohol had remained relatively stable in the Americas and in the European, eastern Mediterranean and western Pacific regions.

But in Africa, the proportion of the population showing an increase in alcohol consumption between 2001 and 2005 reached 25.3 percent.

And in the Southeast Asia region, which in WHO definitions is made up of Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Indonesia, Maldives, Myanmar, Nepal, Sri Lanka, Thailand and Timor-Leste, that figure was 68.3 percent.

"Consumption and harmful intake is increasing in developing countries, particularly Africa and Asia which have less powerful regulations and which have less health service available," said Shekhar Saxena, WHO director of mental health and substance abuse. In May last year, member states of the WHO approved a strategy against alcohol abuse, including a call for discounts on drinks to be banned and for advertising targeting the young to be scrapped.

The strategy drawn up by the UN health agency and approved by its 193-member states at an annual meeting of health ministers also pushes for an end to flat price rates for unlimited drinking and for sponsorship to be regulated.

Plus-sized athletes to US first lady: Fat can be fit

WASHINGTON (AFP) – A lifelong acolyte of exercise and fitness, Sandy Shaffer works out three times per week, eats a diet loaded with fruits and vegetables, and somehow finds time to teach a weekly aerobics class, but at five-foot, five inches (1.65 meters) and 320 pounds (145 kilograms), Shaffer also is considered obese.

But the plus-sized sports enthusiast insists that the label says little about the generally excellent state of her health.

And that is the single biggest problem she has with Michelle Obama's "Let's Move" health initiative.

"I'm glad they encourage people to move, but it's still a negative message," said Shaffer, an administrator at a New

York City labor union.

"You can be healthy even if you're 300 pounds," Shaffer said.

First Lady Michelle Obama's "Let's Move" signature initiative, which marked its one year anniversary this week, aims to help kids slim down by eating better and getting more active.

The fitness community by-and-large has embraced the first lady's signature program, but a contingent of health experts and aficionados balk at equating improving one's health with lowering one's weight.

They say it is possible to be extremely fit and also "overweight" by societal norms.

"What if they end up with all the health benefits of movement, but they don't end up losing weight? Since this is an anti-obesity thing, are they not failures?" said Shaffer.

Neloms has attained an admirable level of fitness over the years in spite of a body mass index that suggests she should be considered overweight.

China restricts smoking in TV, films

BEIJING, China (AFP) – China has ordered that smoking scenes in films and television series be restricted, amid concern it is failing to deliver on pledges to help its 300 million smokers kick the habit.

The State Administration of Radio, Film and Television (SARFT), China's media watchdog, called for "strict control" of smoking scenes and banned minors from being present in shots involving anyone lighting up.

Cigarette brands are banned from appearing in films and television series, and smoking scenes must be kept as short as possible, a circular posted on SARFT's website said.

According to the official Xinhua news agency, a survey conducted among 11,000 middle school students in Beijing showed nearly 33% wanted to try smoking after seeing actors lighting up on television.

Tobacco is the top killer in China -- the world's largest tobacco producer and consumer -- and smoking and exposure to second-hand smoke exact high medical and social costs.

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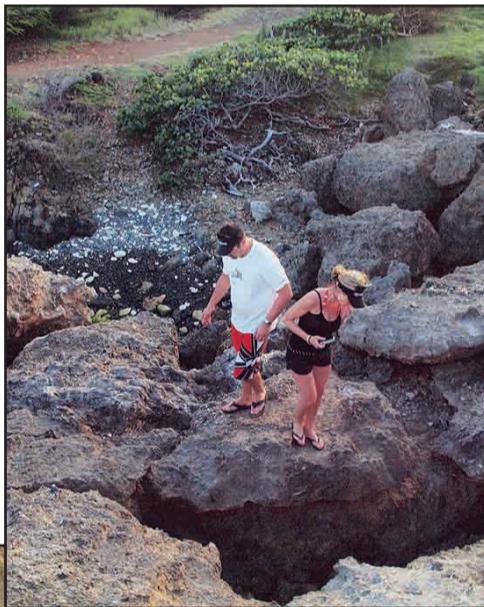
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A journey of discovery for all ages



Felice Ras, one of the many island characters that add flavor to the tour



Aruba is a fascinating contrast of the modern and ancient, where one can be whisked away from glamorous resorts to a world that is as it was centuries ago, and meet people who still live as Arubans did a century ago. The Leavitt family of Denver, Colorado wanted to experience the island in just this way, so they followed the advice of veteran

travelers to Aruba on the Tri-padvisor Forum, and contacted Madi Kock, who conducts very unique and personalized tours. Madi collected Tara and Jason and their daughters Kennedy, Emerson and Riley at their resort in her tough, safari type vehicle and the family was off on a day long adventure they report "went way beyond our expectations."

Traveling deep into Aruba's Outback, they snorkeled at the Natural Pool, explored out-of-the-way natural bridges and blowholes along the rugged north coast, and shouted out "Wooo-Hooo!" right along with Madi as they bounced along some of the most adventurous trails they had ever seen, which she drives everyday—"and thank goodness she knows what she is doing!" commented Tara.

The kids all loved the adventure as did their parents, as well as Madi's insider stories of island life, folklore, and the chance to try the wild berries and grapes that are safe to eat, which grow naturally about the countryside. They were game for discovery, and were so pleased with every aspect of their afternoon adventure they



indulged in another trek around the east end of the island with Madi a few days later. "I can't imagine a better way to see the "real" Aruba," commented Jason. "The kids will sleep well tonight, but it was really exciting and fun. This is exactly what we were looking for when we came here; we found the contrast between Palm Beach and the north coast exciting and absolutely stunning."

Madi, a fifth-generation Aruban, congenitally shares her anecdotes and vast inventory of island factoids with her passengers, as well has her unflappable spirit of adventure. Tours are very reasonably priced and customized to the wishes of her guests. For more information and pick up at your resort, call 746-1397

by Rosalie Klein

COMICS



Courtesy of

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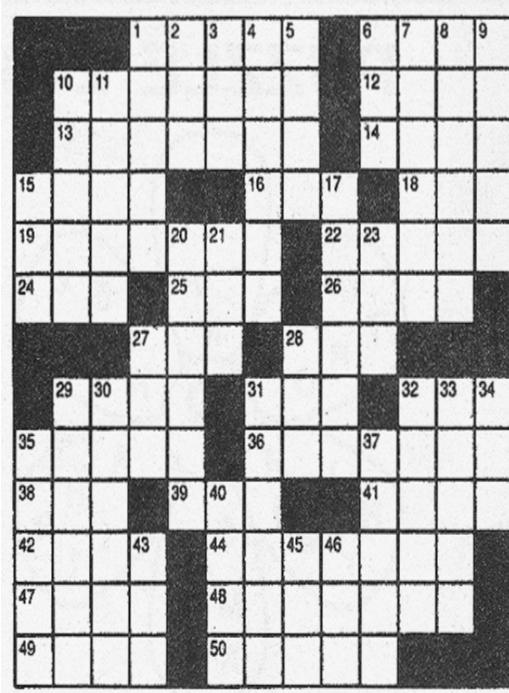
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www.themorningnewstaruba.com**ACROSS**

1. Group of eight
6. Horned vipers
10. Home of the Braves
12. Splendid party
13. Garden State's capital
14. Dash
15. Locale
16. Mr. Rorem
18. Pot top



19. Featherlike
22. Dark hardwood
24. Choose
25. Bow the head
26. Newport ___
27. DDE
28. First lady
29. City in Illinois
31. Powerful fear
32. Govt. agcy.
35. Delaware's capital
36. Juicy fruits
38. Sturgeon eggs
39. Tune
41. First gardener
42. Author Millay
44. Big chicken
47. Aspersion
48. Hearth shelves
49. Appear
50. Extra ___ attraction

DOWN

1. New York city
2. Put up produce
3. Explosive initis.
4. Made up
5. Native of Odense
40. "___ La Douce"
43. Sleeve insert
45. Also
46. Title for Jeanne d'Arc: abbr.

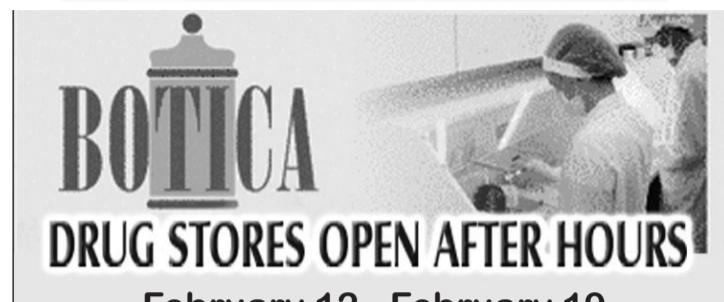
6. Show one's years
7. Yellowish
8. Georgia town
9. Annie's dog
10. Clear of the bottom, at sea
11. Early council town
15. GI's address
17. High western capital
20. Capital of Turkey
21. Water tester
23. Honeycomb maker
27. Chemical suffix
28. Mama sheep
29. Curly-haired dog
30. ___ of the Americas
31. In Europe
32. Castro
33. Chicago players
34. Doctrine
35. Attire
37. Graded

SOLUTION

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3	7	5	1	3	8	7	9	4
2	5	1	6	4	5	9	7	6
3	6	5	7	3	4	8	2	1
8	1	4	9	5	2	3	7	6

Complete the grid so that every row and every column contains the numbers 1 through 9
A number is Never repeated in a row or column.
In addition every rectangle must contain the numbers 1 through 9

Courtesy of



February 12 - February 19

O'stad: "Botica Kibrahacha ; S.N. : "San. Nicolas N.V."

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Posada Clinic Aruba
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8				9	5		3	
9	6						2	1
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5	4	6	1	7	9	2	8	3
6	8	7	4	9	5	1	3	2
4	3	9	2	1	7	5	6	8
3	7	5	1	3	8	7	9	4
2	5	1	6	4	5	9	7	6
3	6	5	7	3	4	8	2	1
8	1	4	9	5	2	3	7	6

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Finance

BRIEFS:

Brent oil strikes two-year peak above \$104 per barrel:

LONDON (AFP) – Brent crude oil prices surged beyond \$104 per barrel hitting the highest levels for more than two years on growing concern that Egypt-style unrest could spread in the Middle East, traders said.

In late afternoon deals, Brent North Sea crude for delivery in April soared to \$104.30, the highest level since September 25, 2008. It later stood at \$104.05, up \$3.11 from week-end's closing level.

New York's main contract, light sweet crude for March delivery, added ten cents to \$85.68.

=====

EU, IMF auditors should learn their place: Greece:

ATHENS (AFP) – Greece kept up the heat on auditors from the European Union and the IMF who said the government should sell 50 billion euros in state assets to lessen the country's runaway public debt.

"They have no right to announce government decisions," state spokesman George Petalotis said as the authorities struggled to convince critics that the huge asset sale was the Greek government's own idea.

The controversy began after auditors from the EU, the IMF and the European Central Bank, who are monitoring Greece's recovery from near bankruptcy last year, made the asset sale call on Friday at the end of a quarterly inspection.

Causing further outrage, two of the auditors gave examples of what could go under the hammer in interviews with Greek newspapers yesterday.

=====

China overtakes Japan as world's No. 2 economy:

TOKYO (AFP) – Japan lost its 42-year ranking as the world's second-biggest economy to China in 2010, with data showing a contraction in the last quarter due to weak consumer spending and a strong yen.

While Japan was expected to fall behind a surging China in the year, the data underlined the weak state of a Japanese economy burdened by deflation, soft domestic demand and pressured by the industrialised world's biggest debt.

While China's leap forward reflects a shift in economic power as the country transforms itself from poverty-hit communist state to global heavyweight, it highlights the need for shrinking Japan to energise its economy, analysts said.

=====

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Hague says Egypt seeks ex-officials' assets freeze



Foreign Secretary William Hague, seen here

LONDON, England (AFP) – Egypt has asked Britain to freeze the assets of several former regime officials, and EU finance ministers will discuss the issue in Brussels, foreign minister William Hague said.

Hague also said Egyptian Prime Minister Ahmed Shafiq had told him opposition figures will be included in a reshuffled cabinet within the next week following the toppling of pres-

ident Hosni Mubarak.

He did not specifically mention Mubarak, who stepped down last week-end after weeks of protests against his authoritarian 30-year rule but remains in Egypt.

The EU and Britain alike had both earlier insisted that they needed a request from Cairo to act against Mubarak's assets, and also that any freeze should be part of an international framework such as the European Union.

The head of the eurozone area, Luxembourg Prime Minister Jean-Claude Juncker, said earlier Monday he wanted the region to follow Switzerland's lead in freezing assets held by Mubarak.

Britain's government has been under growing pressure to freeze funds belonging to Mubarak and his entourage amid reports that they stashed

millions of pounds in accounts in Britain and elsewhere.

Hague said he had spoken to Shafiq, the Egyptian prime minister, to discuss the situation in the country, where the military have suspended the constitution and dissolved parliament ahead of fresh elections in six months.

"I encouraged the Egyptian government to make further moves to accommodate the views of opposition figures and was pleased to hear from prime minister Shafiq that members of the opposition should be included in a reshuffled cabinet due in the next week," Hague said.

Hague said Britain welcomed the Egyptian military's commitment to "all regional and international obligations and treaties," a reference to the peace agreement between Egypt and Israel.

Nokia's strategy shift could cost 6,000 Finnish jobs: union

HELSINKI, Finland (AFP) – World leading mobile phone maker Nokia's new partnership with Microsoft could entail up to 6,000 layoffs in Finland, the head of a large Finnish union said.

Nokia, which has seen its global market share shrink from around 40 percent to 32 percent in just over two years, currently employs some 20,000 people in Finland, out of a worldwide workforce of 132,000 people.

In an attempt to handle the ever harsher competition from Apple and Google in the smartphone market, Nokia announced last Friday it would begin phasing out its

Symbian platform and instead shift to Microsoft's and use the US giant's Windows Phone operating system.

The company's new chief executive, Stephen Elop, also said Nokia would see "substantial" layoffs in Finland and around the world.

The company's research and development divisions, which work on developing its proprietary Symbian and Meego platforms are expected to account for a large part of the layoffs.

Nokia employees "are very afraid about this situation because they know they're changing the whole system. They know they can't

keep all their jobs in the future," Rinne said.

He said he expected the Finnish job cuts at least to be announced "in June or July."

Around 1,500 subcontractor employees might also lose their jobs amid heightened restructuring costs, the union representative said.

The expected job-cuts within Nokia, the Nordic country's industrial heavyweight, provoked protests from the government in Helsinki.

"There is a big risk that it will be a blow to Finland's research and development sector," Labour Minister Anni Sinnemaeki told AFP.



AFP file photo shows Chelsea owner Roman Abramovich, at a press conference in December.

Abramovich is no longer one of Russia's three richest men after being outranked by oligarchs who benefited from recovering oil and commodity prices, a report says.

The 2011 rich list compiled by Moscow's Finans magazine put his wealth at \$17.1 billion, up only \$100 million in a strong year that saw some of Russia's other 114 billionaires make dramatic gains

YESTERDAY'S Crossword Answer

PANIC	STEAL
CABANA	CARBON
ARARAT	EMERGE
LOSE	ACNE AGO
ILE PLAT	ADEN
FEDERAL	OWERS
SHARP	IRIDIUM
AINU	CURD GNU
LEG DAME	PUTT
EMETIC	STRAIT
SALISH	TOONES
LATHE	SODAS

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Steak on a Stone-Le Petit Café's specialty



In a time when dining choices and critiques are based on value for your dollar, an old favorite, Le Petit Café, still offers one of the best values not only in price, but quality, quantity and ambiance.

Le Petit Café in Palm Beach offers charming surroundings reminiscent of a European outdoor café. Surrounded by Old World gaslights and an abundance of flora, it provides a delightful and romantic setting. In Oranjestad, diners can enjoy a breathtaking view of the harbor; particularly as the sun dips over the horizon and the lights of town set the waters aglow. Taking advantage of their Early Bird Special not only offers a great price for a delicious meal, but put you in the right place at the right time to enjoy Aruba's most spectacular daily performance; our stunning sunsets.

The Early Bird special offers a choice of a full sized chicken breast, a hefty portion of filet mignon or fresh grouper fillet accompanied by a well-stuffed baked potato, rice or french fries. There is a choice of soup or salad as a starter, and ice cream for dessert, all for a modest \$21.50; an unbeatable price for a great meal on Aruba!

Cooking your main course on the stone is a supremely healthy method of preparation, seasoned to perfection and using no fats or oils. Fish in

particular is excellent; extremely moist and tasty. A thick cut of filet mignon usually requires cutting into smaller sections to cook fully, especially if your preference is medium-well to well done.

Le Petit Café is particularly well known for its "Land and Sea" specialty, filet mignon and lobster tail; a gourmet treat when served in their signature fashion. The restaurant also offers a diverse menu of pastas and tempting gourmet appetizers such as seafood crepes, crispy calamari, and escargot. For family members in the mood for something different there are several dishes to choose from, such as chicken parmesan, so a large family with different ideas of what they want for dinner can easily be accommodated.

We all know that breakfast is the most important meal of the day, and Le Petit Café has also long been famous for the best value for breakfast on Aruba. They still offer an American breakfast for \$6.95 and a full breakfast buffet for \$10.95, another unbeatable value!

Le Petit Café is also located in the Paradise Beach Villas, so whether you are staying in Oranjestad, Palm Beach or Eagle Beach, a La Petit Café restaurant can be found only a short stroll away from you resort, a perfect way to begin or end your day!

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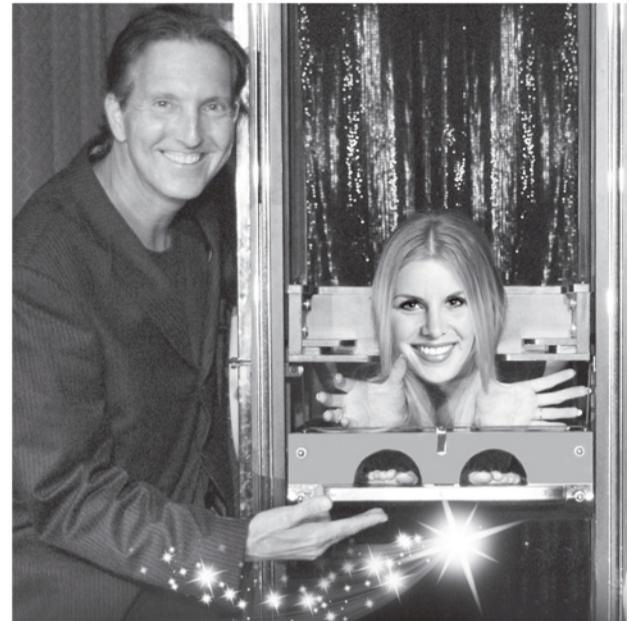
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-Leopold family, New York

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TICKETS: at the door, Box office, Westin Lobby, front desk or all De Palm Tours concierge desks

GROUP SALES: 561-1090

At Sunday's Grammy Awards 2011 . . .



Singer Mick Jagger performs onstage during the GRAMMY Awards Show at the Staples Center in Los Angeles on Sunday. Mick Jagger, Bob Dylan and Barbra Streisand joined rising stars and seasoned chart-toppers at the music industry's annual Grammys awards bash. (AFP PHOTO)



LOS ANGELES -- An egg-like container with singer Lady Gaga inside arrives for the 53rd Annual Grammy Awards at the Staples Center in Los Angeles. Lady Gaga was nominated for Album Of The Year. (AFP PHOTO)



(L-R) Musicians Charles Kelley, Hillary Scott and Dave Haywood of the band Lady Antebellum attend the EMI GRAMMY After-Party at Milk Studios. (AFP PHOTO)



Singer Lady Gaga celebrates after receiving the GRAMMY for "Best Pop Vocal Album" during the GRAMMY Awards Show. (AFP PHOTO)

Brazil great Ronaldo confirms retirement



SAO PAULO (AFP) - Three-time FIFA World Player of the Year Ronaldo, whose goalscoring genius led Brazil to the 2002 World Cup title, confirmed his retirement on Monday at the age of 34.

The tearful Corinthians striker announced his decision at a press conference in Sao Paulo.

"I'm stopping my career as a professional footballer," he said, his voice breaking. "It's been a beautiful, emotional, marvellous career."

"These last two years, I've had a long series of injuries, from one side to the other, one leg to the other, one muscle to the other. The pain pushed me to think about the end of my career."

Ronaldo also revealed that he suffered from a thyroid problem that had made it difficult to control his weight.

"Four years ago, in Milan, I discovered that I suffered from an under-active thyroid that slowed down my metabolism and that to control it, I had to take hormones that weren't authorised in football as they were considered a form of doping," he said.

"Lots of people must regret having made jokes about my weight. But I feel no anger towards anyone."

Having earlier indicated that he hoped to play on until the end of the year, injuries and Corinthians' early elimination from the Copa Libertadores prompted him to bring forward his retirement.

During a glittering 14-year spell in Europe, Ronaldo

scored goals at a prolific rate for PSV Eindhoven, Barcelona, Inter Milan, Real Madrid and AC Milan, before returning to Brazil in 2009.

He won the World Cup with Brazil in 2002 and became the leading scorer in World Cup finals tournaments when he scored his 15th goal at the 2006 tournament in Germany.

He was twice named European Footballer of the Year, in 1997 and 2002, and finished his international career with 62 goals in 97 appearances.

Widely regarded as one of the greatest players of all time, 'El Fenomeno' (The Phenomenon) won the World Cup with Brazil for the first time in 1994, though on that occasion the 17-year-old was part of the squad and did not play.

In 1998, he was among the losing finalists, beaten 3-0 at Stade de France by a rampant French side that included the inspirational Zinedine Zidane.

Brazil's star striker suffered a convulsive fit on the eve of the match and was removed from the starting line-up.

In a dramatic changing-room re-shuffle, he was reinstated just before kick-off but was a shadow of the intimidating forward who had scored four goals in the run-up to the final.

But the 2002 tournament was where he made history.

Shrugging off injury in the tournament, which was hosted by Japan and South Korea, he played a key role in helping Brazil to the trophy, scoring both goals in his country's 2-0 win over Germany in the final in Yokohama.

At the 2006 World Cup in Germany he took his World Cup tally to 15 goals, surpassing the previous record held by Gerd Mueller by one goal.

Ronaldo, who began his career with Cruzeiro, had to fight back from three career-threatening knee injuries over the course of his career.

Tiger tweets apology for spitting on green at Dubai

ORLANDO (AFP) - Tiger Woods apologized Monday in a Twitter message for spitting on the 12th green during the final round of the Dubai Desert Classic, an act which brought a fine from the European Tour.

Tournament director Mike

Stewart reviewed the incident, seen worldwide on television and on YouTube, and decided that the former world number one and 14-time major champion had broken the tour code of conduct.

He was sidelined while playing for Inter by a knee injury in 1999 only to damage the same knee in his comeback for the club in February 2000, effectively keeping him out of action until March 2002.

In February 2008 he ruptured a tendon in his right knee playing for AC Milan against Livorno, an injury that ended his career in Europe.



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Cup coaches have different goals



NEW DELHI (AFP) - They don't win matches by smashing sixes or grabbing wickets but prefer plotting their teams' success behind the scene.

Fourteen coaches go into the World Cup with different goals, some eyeing the trophy while others seek improvement. The only thing unacceptable to all of them is under-performance.

Seven of the nine Test-playing nations named new coaches after the 2007 event in the Caribbean for different reasons, highlighting the significance of their role.

India coach Gary Kirsten, England's Andy Flower, Australian Tim Nielsen, Sri Lanka's Trevor Bayliss, South African Corrie Van Zyl and Pakistan's Waqar Younis believe they have the team to hit the jackpot.

Coaches of the remaining three Test nations -- Jamie Siddons (Bangladesh), John Wright (New Zealand) and Ottis Gibson (West Indies) -- are also hungry for success and expect their teams to im-

prove upon their 2007 performances.

With Mahendra Singh Dhoni as captain and former South Africa batsman Kirsten as coach, India have done remarkably well in recent years to eventually become number one in Test and two in one-day rankings.

Kirsten is likely to step down after the tournament.

Expectations grew with each success and millions of fans now want India to bury bitter memories of the 2007 edition that saw them crash out in the first round.

England are the in-form team, having recently won the Ashes in Australia for the first time in 24 years. Flower's biggest challenge is to make England believe they are as formidable a side in one-dayers as in Tests.

"Andy Flower is a guy we all respect for what he's achieved and how he holds himself in the dressing room. He's been incredible," England captain Andrew Strauss said.

Bayliss played a major role in helping Sri Lanka improve their Test and one-day rankings and expects his team to repeat the 1996 feat in his last assignment.

Sri Lanka have also set lofty standards as they were the champions in 1996, semi-finalists in 2003 and runners-up four years later.

"The World Cup success is a very big thing here in Sri Lanka. Everyone involved in cricket would like to copy what happened in 1996," said Bayliss.

Nielsen will feel the heat

when Australia make a bid to win a fourth successive Cup without key players -- Glenn McGrath, Matthew Hayden, Adam Gilchrist and Andrew Symonds.

Australia, who did not lose a match in the last two editions with John Buchanan as coach, may not find it easy this time as they have shed much of their strength in recent years.

They, however, remain a team to beat in one-dayers.

Waqar, looking for consistency from his team, has said restoring faith among the players will be his top priority.

"My first task will be to mix with the players and raise their morale," Waqar said after being named coach last year.

Pakistan will be determined to put in a solid all-round performance this time after their first-round exit in the last edition.

South Africa had to be content with semi-final finishes in 1999 and 2007 as they faltered at crucial moments.

Van Zyl hopes his side handle the pressure better this time as they have the talent to beat the best.

Bangladesh, who made history by advancing to the second round in 2007 with Dav Whatmore as coach, have been steadily improving in recent years and the credit also goes to Siddons.

Their best came last year when they blanked New Zealand and Zimbabwe in home one-day series.

Wright, India's coach when the team reached the 2003 final in South Africa, is expected to revive New Zealand's fortunes after the team's recent poor performances, including 11 successive defeats in the sub-continent.



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Forsberg cuts short comeback, retires from hockey

DENVER (AFP) - Swedish star Peter Forsberg has given up trying to make a National Hockey League comeback at the age of 37 and has retired from ice hockey, the Colorado Avalanche announced on Monday.

The news comes three days after Forsberg ended a three-year hiatus from the NHL. He played only two games for the Avalanche, a 5-3 loss on Saturday at Nashville and a 3-1 loss at Columbus last Friday.

Forsberg led the Avalanche to two Stanley Cup titles and won the NHL Most

Valuable Player award, the Hart Trophy, in 2003.

But a nagging right foot injury pushed him out of the NHL in 2008. He had been skating and working out with teams in his homeland and last month made a bid to return to the NHL.

In 708 career NHL games, Forsberg scored 249 goals and set up 636 others.

He took one shot against Columbus and two against Nashville, spending just over 17 minutes on the ice in each game. He was called for two penalties at Nashville.

Champion Svindal defends super combined title



GARMISCH-PARTENKIRCHEN (AFP) - Norway's Aksel Lund Svindal retained the men's world super combined title on Monday with Italy's Christof Innerhofer taking silver and compatriot Peter Fill claiming bronze.

The 28-year-old Norwegian clocked a combined time of 2min 54.51sec having been the fastest down both the Kandahar downhill course in the morning and the Gudiberg slalom slope in the

afternoon.

Innerhofer was second at 1.01sec back and Fill claimed third having finished at 1.90sec behind as Svindal dominated the race.

"I was a little bit nervous, of course," said the Norwegian.

"But seeing how both the course and the snow was, I knew I just had to keep my head and not put myself under too much pressure."

US skier Julia Mancuso, who won world silver on

Harbaugh signs three-year extension with Ravens

BALTIMORE (AFP) - Baltimore Ravens coach John Harbaugh, who has guided the team into the NFL playoffs in each of his three seasons, signed a three-year contract extension on Monday, the team announced.

Harbaugh, who is 32-16 in

Vonn quits world championships

GARMISCH-PARTENKIRCHEN (AFP) - Three-time World Cup champion Lindsey Vonn announced Monday she is quitting the world ski championships to boost her chances of winning a fourth straight crystal globe.

Vonn lost her world downhill crown on Sunday when she finished second on the Kandahar course behind Austria's Elisabeth Goergl, who also took Vonn's super-G world title from her when the US star finished seventh last Tuesday.

As well as the team event, which takes place here on Wednesday, Vonn will miss Thursday's giant slalom and Saturday's slalom.

She looks set to return to her base in Austria to rest from the after-affects of a head injury which has plagued her here.

A knock to the head in training nearly a fortnight ago left Vonn complaining of headaches and with trouble concentrating here as she described racing in the super-G as like skiing 'in a cloud'.

She is 156 points behind Germany's Maria Riesch in the World Cup overall standings. A month of racing on alpine's tough World Cup circuit remains, ahead of the finals which start March 16.

"Coming into this championship, my plan was to race in all of the events, my plan now will be to take some time off and try to get 100 percent healthy again."

regular-season games and 4-3 in the playoffs with Baltimore, is under contract to the Ravens through 2014 as a result of the new deal.

"Having John increases our opportunity to compete for the NFL championship every year," said Ravens president Dick Cass.

Harbaugh, a former Philadelphia Eagles special teams coordinator, is only the fourth coach in NFL history to reach the playoffs in his first three seasons as a coach.

"I'm proud to be part of this," Harbaugh said. "We all push each other and pull together.

I said it when I came here: It's about the team. And we plan to be a championship team."

Harbaugh replaced Brian Billick after a 5-11 season in 2007, guiding the Ravens to an 11-5 record in his first season.

The Ravens, who went 12-4 this past season, are the only NFL club to win at least one playoff game in each of the past three years, and all of the wins have come on the road. They defeated Kansas City in the first round last month before losing to Pittsburgh.



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Points, Murray win at Pebble Beach golf tournament



Points (L) celebrates with Murray

PEBBLE BEACH, California (AFP) — Comic actor Bill Murray of "Caddyshack" fame and US veteran pro D.A. Points won long-sought breakthrough titles at the PGA Pebble Beach National Pro-Am on Sunday.

Points eagled the par-5 14th to seize the lead for good and followed with a birdie at 15 on his way to a final-round five-under par 67 that gave him a two-stroke victory over Hunter Mahan for his first PGA title.

"Pebble Beach may be the most iconic place in America to play golf and to win here is just a dream come true," Points said.

Murray, a 60-year-old actor known to golf fans for his role as Carl Spackler in the 1980 golf comedy, tried to claim the crystal pro-am winner's trophy for years but was never better than fourth until

Sunday's two-shot triumph.

"I feel better than all the others. Which is nice," Murray said. "I knew D.A. would win if I could go all week without asking him what DA stood for. And I did."

Darren Andrew Points credited Murray's antics, chatting about houses and ice cream flavors during the tense final round, with helping relax him and enable him to play his best.

"Without a doubt," Points said. "That kind of loosened me up."

Points had already putted out to assure himself and Murray the pro-am crown when Murray eyed his final putt on the 18th green and began an adapted version of his cinematic "Cinderella Story" rant from "Caddyshack."

Murray struck the putt, followed it to the hole and made sure the ball fell into the cup, screaming another famous Spackler line - "It's in the hole."

"I'm thinking about turning professional," Murray joked. "I probably won't because I have some other responsibilities."

Points, whose new responsibilities as a PGA champion include a Masters berth in April, emerged from a jam-packed leaderboard over the final holes.

As the top seven players began their back-nine battle within two strokes, only one of them had won a PGA event before, that being Mahan, whose three titles included the 2010 Phoenix Open and World Golf Bridgestone Invitational.

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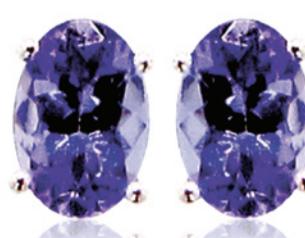


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Contador may be cleared of doping charges: press

MADRID (AFP) — The Spanish Cycling Federation (RFEC) may clear three-time Tour de France champion Alberto Contador of using performance-enhancing drugs when its issues its final decision today, Spanish newspapers said.

The RFEC, which last month recommended a one-

year ban for Contador, has been convinced by arguments put forward by the Spaniard himself and may decide to clear him, the dailies El País and El Mundo said on their websites Monday.

A spokesman for the RFEC told AFP the committee will inform Contador on Tuesday of its final decision,

but would comment no further on the news reports.

The committee can either clear Contador, confirm its original recommendation of a one-year suspension or increase the ban to two years, the amount stipulated under international regulations for such a doping offence.